

What is claimed is:

1. An operation determination apparatus for
determining an operation mode when a failure occurs
5 in a system, comprising:

a determination device determining which operation mode should be selected, a system-down mode to stop the system or a dynamic degeneracy mode to prohibit a use of a part where the failure occurred and to continue an operation of the system; and

an operation device performing an operation corresponding to the determined operation mode.

2. The operation determination apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein said determination device includes
a device judging which operation mode should be selected,
the system-down mode or the dynamic degeneracy mode,
for each device/group included in the system.

20 3. The operation determination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said determination device includes a device judging which operation mode should be selected, the system-down mode or the dynamic degeneracy mode, for each device control unit included in the system.

5. The operation determination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said determination device includes a setting device setting one of the system-down mode and the dynamic degeneracy and selects the set operation mode.

6. The operation determination apparatus according to
15 claim 5, wherein said setting device includes a device
setting the operation mode for each device group
included in the system.

7. The operation determination apparatus according to
claim 5, wherein said setting device includes a device
20 setting the operation mode for each device control unit
included in the system.

8. The operation determination apparatus according to
25 claim 5, wherein said setting device includes a device

operation mode for the system.

operation determination apparatus wherein said determination apparatus checks whether another operation mode is required by the part where the operation mode is selected, which operation mode is the operation mode in the down mode or the dynamic mode, and whether the operation mode of the device is affected by the operation mode of the other device.

operation determination apparatus wherein the operation mode of the device is determined by the operation mode of the other device, comprising:

operation determination device wherein the operation mode should be selected by the operation mode of the other device, including at least one of the system and a dynamic mode, and a dynamic mode of a use of a part where the operation mode of the other device is determined, and the operation mode of the other device is determined by the operation mode of the other device.

operation device performing the operation mode of the other device to the determined operation mode of the other device.

computer-readable storage medium storing a program for enabling the operation mode of the other device to be determined by the operation mode of the other device.

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an operation device performing an operation
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determines an operation mode when a failure occurs in a system, to perform

determining which operation mode should be selected, a system-down mode to stop the system or a
 5 dynamic degeneracy mode to prohibit a use of a part where the failure occurred and to continue an operation of the system.

12. An operation determination method for determining
 10 an operation mode when a failure occurs in a system, comprising:

detecting the failure of the system;

automatically determining which operation mode should be selected, a system-down mode to stop the
 15 system or a dynamic degeneracy mode to prohibit a use of a part where the failure occurred and to continue an operation of the system; and

performing an operation corresponding to the determined operation mode.

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13. A notification apparatus, comprising
 a notification device notifying, when a failure occurs in a system and use of a failed device is prohibited, a device control unit that performs control
 25 over the failed device, of a prohibition of use of the

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14. The notification apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said notification device includes a pseudo-interrupt issuance device making the device control unit access the failed device by issuing a pseudo-interrupt to the device control unit and calling up an interrupt process of the device control unit.

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18. The notification apparatus according to claim 16,
5 wherein said notification judgment device includes a
device judging whether a device control unit should
be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device
for each device control unit that performs control over
a device included in the system.

19. The notification apparatus according to claim 16,
wherein said notification judgment device includes a
device judging whether a device control unit should
be notified of a prohibition of use of a failed device
for each device included in the system.

20. The notification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said notification judgment device includes a setting device setting information about whether the device control unit should be notified of the prohibition of use of the failed device, and outputs a judgment result corresponding to the set information.

21. The notification apparatus according to claim 20,
25 wherein said setting device includes a device setting

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a notification device changing, when a failure

occurs in a system and use of a failed device is prohibited, a state of the failed device to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize a prohibition of use of the failed device.

27. A computer-readable storage medium on which is recorded a program for enabling a computer to perform notifying, when a failure occurs in a system and use of a failed device is prohibited, a device control unit that performs control over the failed device, of a prohibition of use of the failed device by making the device control unit access the failed device.

28. A computer-readable storage medium on which is recorded a program for enabling a computer to perform

20 changing, when a failure occurs in a system and use of a failed device is prohibited, a state of the failed device to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize a prohibition of use of the failed device.

prohibiting use of a failed device when a failure occurs in a system; and

30. A notification method, comprising:

changing a state of the failed device to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize the prohibition of use of the failed device.

determination means for determining which
20 operation mode should be selected, a system-down mode
to stop the system or a dynamic degeneracy mode to
prohibit use of a part where the failure occurred and
to continue an operation of the system; and

operation means for performing an operation
25 corresponding to the determined operation mode.

32. A notification apparatus, comprising:

prohibition means for prohibiting use of a failed device when a failure occurs in a system; and

5 notification means for notifying a device control unit that performs control over the failed device of the prohibition of use of the failed device by making the device control unit access the failed device.

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33. A notification apparatus, comprising:

prohibition means for prohibiting use of a failed device when a failure occurs in a system; and

15 notification means for changing a state of the failed device to a state where another system related to the failed device can recognize the prohibition of use of the failed device.

20 34. A transmission medium for transmitting to a computer a program for enabling the computer, which determines an operation mode when a failure occurs in a system, to perform

judging which operation mode should be selected, a system-down mode to stop the system or a dynamic degeneracy mode to prohibit use of a part where the
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failure occurred and to continue an operation of the system.

35. A transmission medium for transmitting to a computer
5 a program for enabling the computer to perform
notifying, when a failure occurs in a system and
use of a failed device is prohibited, a device control
unit that performs control over a failed device, of
a prohibition of use of the failed device by making
10 the device control unit access the failed device.

36. A transmission medium for transmitting to a computer
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failed device can recognize a prohibition of use of
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